Minutes of the Continuation Committee of the World Conference on Faith and Order

Berne, Switzerland
August 23-25
1926

Published by the Secretariat,
P. O. Box 226, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

No. 45.

Pamphlets, including the Programme for the World Conference on Faith and Order, may be had free from the Secretariat, P. O. Box 226, Boston, Mass., U. S. A.

Please send the names and addresses of any persons who might be interested in the preparations.

WORLD CONFERENCE ON FAITH AND ORDER

AUGUST 23–25, 1926

The Continuation Committee met at 2 P.M. in the Parlament-Haus, Bern, Switzerland.

Present:

Dr. Hamilcar Alivisatos
Rev. Canon H. N. Bate, M.A.
Rev. Nehemiah Boynton, D.D.
Rev. Bishop James Cannon, Jr., D.D.
Miss Lucy Gardner
Rev. A. E. Garvie, D.D.
Most Rev. Archbishop Germanos
Rt. Rev. Irénée
Rev. Bishop Adolf Küry, D.D.
Dr. theol. A. Lang
Very Rev. J. A. M'Clymont, C.B.E., D.D.
Rt. Rev. Harald Ostenfeld
Pastor Friedrich Siegmund-Schultze
Most Rev. Nathan Söderblom
Most Rev. Metropolitan Stefan
Rev. John G. Tasker, D.D.
Pastor N. B. Thvedt, D.D.
Prof. Dr. Francis Žilka.

The following were welcomed and seated as substitutes for absent members: — Dr. Baron Albert Kaas for Bishop Raffay; Rev. F. L. Wiseman, M.A., for Dr. Hughes; Rev. J. R. Fleming, D.D., for Dr. Martin; and Rector J. Lindskog, D.D., for Bishop Lindberg.

By invitation Dr. Adolf Deissmann, Sir Henry Lunn and Dr. Adolf Keller were seated with the Committee.

A telegram was received from Bishop Brent, regretting his unavoidable absence from the Committee, and Dr. Garvie was unanimously elected Chairman *pro tempore*.

Dr. Boynton led the meeting in prayer.

Dr. Boynton read a letter from Bishop Brent; and it was unanimously resolved that a message of regret be sent to the Bishop for his enforced absence.

Dr. A. Deissmann and Sir Henry Lunn were elected as members of the Committee.

The following hours of session were agreed upon:

Morning 9.30–12.30
Afternoon 2.30–5.00

It was agreed to terminate on Wednesday, August 25.

The Minutes of the last meeting, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and were approved.

With regard to an article about the approaching Conference reprinted from the *Reformierte Schweizer Zeitung* of May 14 and circulated by the Secretariat, it was reported that all those who had received the reprint were being sent a further message pointing out that one function of the Continuation Committee is to gather the opinions held in various quarters and make them more generally known, but that such documents should not be taken as expressing the views of the Continuation Committee. It was agreed that a note to this effect should be prefixed to all such material in the future. In connection with the same article, the Committee reaffirmed the intention to leave to each Church to decide whether it comes within the terms of the invitation to the Conference or not.

The provision for the coöption of members adopted at Stockholm was reaffirmed. Dr. Tasker moved that coöpted members should be on exactly the same standing as other members. The motion was seconded by Sir Henry Lunn and carried.

It was agreed that French, German and English should be the languages of the Conference, and that the question of securing competent interpreters was of supreme importance. It was decided that three interpreters at least would be needed, each one translating into his native language. It was suggested that the interpreters be asked to revise the reports made by the stenographers, so that no mistake be made. The matter was then referred to the Business Committee.

A hypothetical Budget was distributed, and after discussion it was agreed to suggest to the Business Committee that it might be possible to carry out the project worthily at a lower rate for hospitality than that suggested.

It was agreed that the Lausanne Conference should end on August 21. In view of the dates of closing of the German Universities, and the difficulties of holidays of the English ministers, it was resolved that the Conference should begin with a service on the evening of Tuesday, August 2, but that the first meeting should not take place until Wednesday morning.

Some suggestions from Bishop Brent were read, and a sub-committee consisting of the following was appointed to draw up a skeleton plan of the sessions: Dr. Garvie, Mr. Brown, Canon Bate, Dr. M'Clymont, Miss Gardner, Dr. Lang, Metropolitan Germanos, and Mr. Wiseman.

Dr. Deissmann closed the meeting with prayer at 5 P.M.

AUGUST 24, 1926.

The Continuation Committee reassembled at 9.30 A.M.

Dr. Tasker led in prayer.

Dr. Arthur J. Brown was seated in the stead of Dr. Stevenson. In addition to members who responded to the roll call on the previous day, Professor Tzankoff was recorded present. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman and Dr. Wilfred Monod were present by special invitation.

The minutes of August 23 were read and approved.

Dr. Garvie presented a report of the subcommittee on procedure which, after revision, was endorsed and referred to the Business Committee for their guidance, as follows:

Report of Subcommittee on Procedure.

The Subcommittee makes the following recommendations:

1. That the time available for conference at Lausanne be divided into four periods, the first two of four days each and the last two of three days each; and that two days should be left clear at the end for the completion of the Conference's work and the transaction of necessary business.

2. That during the first and third of these periods the main subjects of the Agenda should be brought before the whole Conference in the following order:

I. The Call to Unity.
II. The Church's Message to the World — the Gospel.
III. The Nature of the Church.
IV. The Church's Common Confession of Faith.

(Third Period)

V. The Church's Ministry.
VI. The Sacraments.
VII. The Unity of Christendom and the Place of different Churches within it.

3. That at the morning sessions on these days there should be (*a*) two speeches by invited speakers, whose addresses should have been previously printed and circulated in the three languages of the Conference; and (*b*) other speeches by invited speakers who should have prepared themselves to follow what had already been said; care being taken, in inviting the speakers, that different types of Churches should be as adequately represented as possible;

and that at the afternoon sessions of these days there should be free discussion of the topics presented in the morning.

4. That for the second and fourth periods the Conference should be divided into as many widely-representative sections as it should determine, for the further discussion of the subjects thus presented, each section being allowed the fullest possible liberty in arranging its own procedure, appointing, if it desires, a small committee to formulate its conclusions, and reporting on the fourth and third day respectively to the whole Conference.

5. That the members of the present Subjects Committee (with additions to their number) should not be assigned to any special section, but should be free to attend wherever their presence might be thought desirable.

6. That Subject VIII (Arrangements for Continuing the Work of the Conference) should be taken by the Conference on one or other of the last two days.

7. That the morning sessions of the Conference and of the sections should be from 10 to 1; and that in order to allow time for due consideration of the morning's proceedings, the afternoon sessions should be held not earlier than 4, and be as far as possible limited to two and one-half hours.

With regard to the third paragraph of the report, it was agreed that proofs of the speeches of the two principal speakers of the day should be sent to the four speakers invited to follow, in sufficient time to allow them to prepare their material. It was agreed also that half an hour should be given to devotions at the opening of the morning sessions, that the principal speakers should be allowed a maximum of half an hour, and the subsequent speakers a maximum of fifteen minutes, and that in the afternoon the speakers should be limited to five or seven minutes.

It was decided that three committees of five, with power to add to their number, be appointed (American, European and Eastern), with power to nominate each one principal speaker and one subordinate speaker on each subject of the Agenda. The three committees should submit their nominations for final decision to a committee of five, as follows: Bishop Brent, Archbishop Söderblom, Dr. Garvie, Archbishop Germanos, and a second American to be chosen by Bishop Brent.

To secure the formation of the three committees aforesaid, it was agreed that the members of the Continuation Committee, before the morrow's session, meet in three sections, American, European

and Eastern, to discuss the personnel of the respective committees and their procedure, for report to the Continuation Committee, August 25.

It was agreed that at the appropriate point in the records of the Conference, reference should be made to the absence of any non-participating Churches.

The question of the form of the Agenda for the Conference was brought forward. A communication dated July 29 from Dr. Francis J. Hall was distributed to the Committee, urging that the Agenda be reduced to the simple specification of subjects of conference.

A recess was taken for ten minutes. The Committee reassembled at 11.30. Dr. Lang led in prayer.

Communications from Bishop Brent, Bishop Arthur C. A. Hall and Mr. George Zabriskie were read, supporting the suggestion made by Dr. Hall.

[After a discussion of these communications, it was agreed to insert the following at the beginning of the Agenda:
The Continuation Committee submits the following material for the consideration of the Conference. It is hoped that these statements will indicate the general lines upon which discussion may profitably proceed. The question of a vote on any proposition herein contained will be reserved for later decision.*]

Adjourned 12.30 P.M.

Dr. Tasker closed the meeting with prayer.

The Committee reassembled at 2.50 P.M., and the meeting was led in prayer by Dr. Fleming.

With regard to the preamble for the Agenda, it was agreed to ask Canon Bate to frame a new preamble in view of suggestions made by Sir Henry Lunn and others. It was also decided that the preamble should have no title.

[It was agreed that, following the preamble, there should be a timetable of the Conference consisting of the subjects and names of the invited speakers, followed under each head by the material to be proposed for discussion.*]

Comments on the substance of the draft Agenda from representatives of the Scottish Churches were distributed.

---

*Superseded by action on August 25, pages 13 and 14.

Subject I. The Call to Unity. In lines 2 and 3 it was agreed to substitute "the unity" for "a greater unity." Clause (*c*) should read as follows: "the purpose of the Lord, that through His Church the non-Christian world should be converted and all human society purified and inspired, a purpose which, especially in view of the strength and violence of the antagonistic forces of our day, can be fulfilled only by a united Church."

Subject II. The Church's Message to the World — the Gospel. It was agreed to appoint a subcommittee to make a draft for this subject and report to the morrow's meeting of the Continuation Committee, the subcommittee to consist of Canon Bate (Convener), Dr. Lang, Bishop Irénée, Dr. Lindskog, Bishop Cannon, and Dr. Tasker.

Subject VI. The Sacraments. The following subcommittee was appointed to make a draft for this subject: Professor Alivisatos (Convener), Bishop Küry, Dr. M'Clymont, Mr. Wiseman, Dr. Siegmund-Schultze.

Subject III. The Nature of the Church. It was agreed to delete the note at the head of this subject.

With regard to the alterations suggested by the Commission of the United Lutheran Church of America, the Corresponding Secretary was authorized to say that an opportunity will be available at Lausanne for presentation of the said material.

Dr. S. Parkes Cadman was elected a member of the Continuation Committee.

After prayer by Dr. Garvie, the meeting adjourned at 4.55 P.M.

AUGUST 25, 1926.

The Committee reassembled at 10:30 A.M.

In the absence of Dr. Garvie, Dr. Tasker took the chair *pro tempore.*

Pastor Thvedt led the meeting in prayer.

The minutes of August 24 were read and accepted as amended.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Dr. Boynton and received by the Committee, as follows:

To the World Conference Continuation Committee:
The Treasurer reports that from the 20th of July, 1925, the date of his last report, his receipts have been $25,088.27, and his disbursements $27,073.47; with the balance of $3,566.43 on July 20, 1925, and cash remaining in the Secretary's office on October 2, 1925, there remains a balance on this date of $2,031.85.

At every meeting of the Business Section of the Committee the Treasurer has submitted an account of his receipts and disbursements; and in every instance the Business Section have been pleased to approve his account.

The account now presented to the Continuation Committee discloses that about sixty per cent of the receipts, or to be exact, $14,685.64, have come from Commissions or other bodies representing Churches associated with the Conference. About forty per cent, or $10,410.92, have come from parishes and, chiefly, from individuals. One individual has contributed $2,000; one has contributed $1,500; one has contributed $1,000; and several have contributed sums of $500, $400, $250, $200, or $100. The residue is made up of a large number of small gifts.

The thanks of the Continuation Committee are due to the United States Trust Company of New York, depositary of the funds of the Committee and the assistant to the Treasurer, for their willing, patient and efficient service in that behalf.

The Treasurer's account is submitted with this report.

GEORGE ZABRISKIE,
Treasurer.

July 31, 1926.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

July 20, 1925 to July 31, 1926.

Receipts

Balance brought forward		$3,566.43
Official Appropriations from Commissions and Churches	$14,685.64	
Gifts from Parishes and Individuals	10,410.92	
Bank Interest	69.00	
Received from Sales of Supplies, etc.	46.21	25,088.27
Cash in Secretary's Office, October 2, 1925		450.62
		$29,105.32

Expenditures

Secretary's Office:		
Salaries, travelling expenses, etc., of staff	$8,167.02	
Clerical Assistance	5,447.34	
Office Rent, Equipment, Supplies	2,217.35	
Postage, Telegrams, Cables	971.53	
Translations	305.00	
Printing	1,493.33	
Travel of Committee Members	559.10	
Subjects Committee	319.93	
Publicity	1,092.87	
Campaign	3,000.00	
Advanced to Secretary's Office for Expenses over Summer	3,000.00	
Refunded to National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church	500.00	27,073.47
Balance		$2,031.85

OFFICIAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM COMMISSIONS AND CHURCHES.

Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America (through Commission on Faith and Order)	$10,500.00
Church of England in Canada	793.79
Episcopal Church of Ireland	121.12
Anglican Province of the West Indies	49.06
Anglican Diocese in Argentina and Eastern South America	50.00
Church of England in India	74.10
Congregational Union of England and Wales	25.20
Church of Denmark	50.00
Wesleyan Methodist Conference of England, Scotland and Wales	121.00
Methodist Church of New Zealand	48.00
Old Catholic Churches in Europe	35.00
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.	1,000.00
United Presbyterian Church of North America	300.00
Reformed Church in America	50.00
Church of Scotland	241.25
United Free Church of Scotland	242.38
National Council of Congregational Churches in the United States	250.00
Church of Cyprus	23.90
Congregational Union of Australia and New Zealand	24.22
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in Australia	9.69
Church of the Province of South Africa	120.93
General Synod of the Reformed Church of the U.S.A.	300.00
United Lutheran Church in America	250.00
Evangelical Church of Bohemian Brethren	6.00
Total	$14,685.64

A hearty vote of thanks was moved to Mr. George Zabriskie for his services as Treasurer of the Committee, and the Corresponding Secretary was asked to convey this to him.

A communication from Dr. Rushbrooke of the Baptist World Alliance was read, asking whether, if the constituent bodies of the Baptist World Alliance were to send representatives to the Conference, they might be allowed to draw up a minority report for inclusion in any published findings of the Conference. It was agreed that Dr. Rushbrooke's attention be called to clause 1 (e) of the Standing Orders as to Procedure in the Conference, as follows: — "No statement shall be declared to be adopted unless it be accepted either unanimously or *nemine contradicente*. In case a statement does not gain this measure of acceptance, the Conference shall determine what further steps if any shall be taken on that subject." Also that the following be added in the answer to Dr. Rushbrooke's letter: — "However, in the event of such a change of procedure at Lausanne that a majority Report were adopted by the Conference, the Conference un-

doubtedly would give to any delegation which so desired it the right to record the dissenting conclusion which it may have reached."

Rev. John J. Banninga, D.D., was elected in the place of Rev. J. H. Maclean on the Committee, and Rev. N. Paul Abraham in place of Rev. E. F. Piper.

Dr. Siegmund-Schultze reported for the European section that the following committee had been nominated for suggesting speakers at Lausanne: — Dr. Garvie (Chairman), Dr. Bell (Dean of Canterbury), Pastor Thvedt, Professor Žilka, Bishop Ravasz, Dr. M'Clymont, Professor Choisy, and Dr. Siegmund-Schultze.

Archbishop Germanos reported that the following committee had been nominated for the Eastern section: — Archbishop Germanos (Chairman), Metropolitan Stefan, Bishop Irénée, Metropolitan Balan, Professor Alivisatos, and Bishop Küry.

Dr. Boynton reported that the following committee had been nominated for the American group: — Bishop Brent, Dr. Peter Ainslie, Dr. Clarence A. Barbour, Dr. Nehemiah Boynton, Bishop Cannon, Bishop McConnell, Dr. M. G. G. Scherer, Dr. J. Ross Stevenson, and Dr. S. H. Chester.

These three reports were accepted by the Committee.

Dr. Alivisatos submitted for the subcommittee on the Sacraments a revised draft for Subject VI, which was accepted by the Committee. (The material as adopted will be found appended to the Programme of the Lausanne Conference.)

The Committee adjourned for ten minutes' recess, and reassembled at 11:50, with Dr. Garvie in the chair.

Bishop Cannon presented a resolution as to the form of the Agenda for Lausanne.

After prayer by Dr. Tasker the Committee adjourned at 12:45. The Committee reassembled at 3 o'clock.

Bishop Küry led in prayer.

The resolution presented by Bishop Cannon was revised and adopted as follows:

> *Voted:* that in view of the serious misunderstandings which have arisen and which are likely to arise in the future, should the propositions brought out by the Subjects Committee be published as part of the official

programme by the Continuation Committee, and in view of the vital importance of excluding even the implication that any effort was being made to determine in advance the conclusions to be reached by the World Conference on Faith and Order, it is the judgment of the Continuation Committee that the official programme of the Conference should contain only the statement of times and places of meeting, names of officers of the Conference, including Presiding Officers at separate sessions, the subjects to be discussed, and the names of the speakers, all other matters pertaining to the subjects under discussion to be printed at the end of the programme accompanied by such statements as will clearly indicate that the propositions presented are not to be considered as in any sense expressions of official judgments or final conclusions, but simply as suggestive of questions which must naturally arise in any thorough consideration of the general subject. And that all resolutions to the contrary should be rescinded.

It was agreed also that such of the old "Draft Agenda" as would appear at the end of the programme, together with any further material, should be termed "Draft of Propositions suggested for Discussion, prepared by the Subjects Committee and approved by the Continuation Committee."

It was agreed that the document be remitted to Canon Bate with the criticisms sent in, to give it the form that seemed most effective.

Canon Bate submitted a draft for Subject II, The Church's Message to the World — the Gospel. This was approved by the Committee. (The material as adopted will be found appended to the Programme for the Lausanne Conference.)

It was agreed that the following preamble as drafted by Canon Bate be inserted as heading of the programme:

> We, the members of the World Conference on Faith and Order, whose names are hereinafter written, together with those of the Churches which have sent us here or to which we belong, are met in the name of God. We believe that the Holy Spirit is moving the hearts of Christian people far and wide to deplore our divisions and to desire the oneness of Christ's people. We accept with gratitude the call which has brought us together; we commend our work most humbly

to the guidance of the Holy Spirit; and in reliance upon His leading we pass to the consideration of the subjects prepared for our Conference.

It was moved from the Chair that the Conference at Lausanne should begin on Wednesday, August 3, 1927, in the morning, with a solemn religious service, followed by a short morning session of the Conference. This was agreed to.

It was agreed that the Continuation Committee should meet next on Monday, August 1, 1927, at 9:30 A.M., and Tuesday, August 2, unless the Business Committee sees urgent necessity for meeting on Saturday, July 30th.

It was resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Executive Committee of Life and Work, especially to Dr. Atkinson and Dr. Keller, for facilities for meeting, to the Deaconesses for their hospitality, and to the President of the Swiss Federation for allowing the meetings to take place in the Parliament House. The Corresponding Secretary was charged to send letters.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Garvie and Dr. Tasker for their chairmanship, and to Canon Bate and Mr. Brown for their services to the Committee.

Bishop Irénée closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjourned 4:10 P.M.

ALFRED E. GARVIE,
Chairman pro tempore.

H. N. BATE,
Hon. Secretary of the Subjects Committee.

RALPH W. BROWN,
Corresponding Secretary.

Contributions for the expenses of the work are greatly needed. They may be sent to the United States Trust Company, 45 Wall Street, New York City, to the Rev. Ernest Jauncey, M.A., "Langdale," Telegraph Road, Heswall, Birkenhead, England, or to Mr. C. R. Walsh, Diocesan Rectory, George Street, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.